



## SPECIAL REPORT: A VISION FOR THE 2013-2015 TERM

### Mayor and Council Agree on Direction for the City

At the suggestion of Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, the Mayor and Council met over two days at the end of January to work on team building and to set their vision and goals for the term that ends in November 2015.

The retreat yielded a vision that is expected to strengthen the City's position in a variety of areas and

lead to specific improvements in Rockville. Mayor Newton and Councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg, Tom Moore, Virginia D. Onley and Julie Palakovich Carr identified eight "critical success factors," which represent what the City will look like when the Mayor and Council achieve their shared vision.

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City leaders met to discuss Rockville's future.

#### The critical success factors are:

1. Effective City Service Delivery
2. Good Governance
3. Livable Neighborhoods
4. Fiscal Responsibility
5. Well-Planned Community
6. Engaged Residents
7. Responsible Economic Development
8. Stewardship of Infrastructure

*Full descriptions of these factors can be found on page 2...*



### Get Started on Spring Cleaning

If you've caught the spring cleaning bug, the City is here to haul your bulk trash items away.

Rockville provides six special bulk refuse collections per household each calendar year.

Bulk refuse collections are for large refuse that does not fit into carts, such as couches or desks. Residents may call 240-314-8568 on weekdays from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. to schedule an appointment for collection. Bulk refuse must be placed in an unobstructed area at the curb by 6 a.m. on the scheduled collection date.

Special bulk refuse collections are limited to less than 500 pounds or 60 cubic feet. The following is a list of accepted bulk refuse:

- Wooden fencing and landscape ties
- Furniture and toys (non-plastic)
- Lumber and construction debris
- Pianos
- Plate glass (wrapped or taped to prevent breakage)
- Rugs, carpets, mattresses, box springs
- Non-metal window frames (remove glass or cover glass with cardboard or tape)
- Couches
- Wooden desks

Appliances (such as dryers, hot water heaters and air conditioners) and metal furniture are handled separately.

For more information on bulk refuse, visit the City's website at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse).

### City of Rockville Names New Director of Recreation and Parks Department

City Manager Barb Matthews appointed Timothy J. Chesnutt as Rockville's new Director of Recreation and Parks. Chesnutt comes to Rockville from Jacksonville, N. C., where he served as Director of the Recreation and Parks Department since 2009.

Earlier in his career, Chesnutt served in leadership positions with Loudoun County, Va., including as Director of the Loudoun Youth Initiative. He also served as the Manager of Recreation Services for the Department of Parks and Recreation in the Town of Herndon, Va. Chesnutt also held positions in Arlington County, Va. and Anne Arundel County, Md.

Chesnutt holds a master's degree in administrative management and public administration from Bowie State University and a bachelor's degree in sports management from Towson University.

Matthews said: "Tim brings more than 25 years of recreation and parks administration experience to Rockville. He is a proven leader in the field, and we are looking forward to having him



**Timothy J. Chesnutt, Recreation and Parks director.**

on our team."

Chesnutt said: "I have long known Rockville is a special place. The Recreation and Parks Department has a reputation for providing

quality, innovative and responsive services and programs, and I am honored to be chosen to be a part of this exceptional team. I look forward to working with the city manager, the outstand-

ing staff of the Recreation and Parks Department, the Mayor and Council, and the greater Rockville community to carry on a tradition of excellence."

Chesnutt succeeds Recreation and Parks Director Burt Hall, who retired in June 2012. Christine Henry, Recreation and Parks administration manager, served as the acting director. Chesnutt will start on March 3.

The Recreation and Parks Department manages parks, open space, arts, community services, recreation programs, senior services, special events, the City's forestry program and maintenance of all City facilities. ✚



Rockville Recreation and Parks Department employees.

### Planning Dept. Offers Residents Faster Option for Some Permits

Fast-track permitting is now available through the Inspection Services Division within the Community Planning and Development Services Department. The following residential permits can be processed in one day, over the counter, at City Hall:

- Decks
- Fences
- Fireplaces
- Interior demolition
- Sheds
- Small garages (under 500 square feet; no carports)

The fast-track process takes between one and two hours. Some complex applications may not be able to be fast-tracked. In order to be eligible for the fast-track process, residents need to bring the appropriate plans and forms with them to the counter.

If you have questions about the fast-track process, email the Inspection Services Division at [permits@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:permits@rockvillemd.gov). For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/isd](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/isd). ✚

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# City Leaders Set Their Sights

Rockville's council-manager form of government stipulates that the Mayor and Council set policy and the city manager, who they appoint, carries out that policy direction through her oversight of City employees. City Manager Barb Matthews and

Deputy City Manager Jenny Kimball attended the retreat along with the elected officials. Retreat facilitator Julia D. Novak, president of the Novak Consulting Group, is a veteran leader of such gatherings.

Matthews thanked Newton

for her leadership in organizing the event.

"I am impressed by how cohesively the Mayor and Council are working together, not only at the retreat but also in their day-to-day tasks," Matthews said. "Having this blueprint will enable all of

us to serve residents and the overall community better."

During the retreat, topics discussed included teamwork, roles and expectations, processes and procedures, managing conflict and what success looks like. City leaders also considered feedback

they have received from the public and the 2013 Citizen Survey.

Read the Mayor and Council's comments about their retreat and vision at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillereports](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillereports) (March 2014 edition, page 2a). ✚



## Effective City Service Delivery

Rockville is known for exceptional, personalized service delivery to residents and businesses, characterized by efficient, well documented processes that are administered equitably by a motivated workforce of employees with a "can-do" attitude. The City has talented leadership that ensures the City government is moving in the right direction. ■



## Good Governance

The Rockville Mayor and Council work well together to make decisions for the betterment of the City, and the City enjoys excellent relationships with Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and other governmental entities. ■



## Livable Neighborhoods

Rockville is a community of diverse neighborhoods offering a high quality of life. This has been accomplished by the City's commitment to public safety, pedestrian safety, traffic mitigation, diversity in housing options, property maintenance, and support for high quality education and City services that address the needs of all constituencies. ■

## What Does Success Look Like?

*These 'critical success factors' describe what Rockville will look like when the Mayor and Council achieve their shared vision.*



## Fiscal Responsibility

The City of Rockville has a track record of fiscal stability evidenced by exemplary bond ratings, appropriate reserve planning and well thought out and researched capital and operating plans. ■



## Well-Planned Community

Rockville is the epitome of a well-planned community that constantly reinvents itself and manages increasing density and growth associated with being part of a major metropolitan area. Rockville is known

for quality transit-oriented and mixed use development. The City's "Rockville Pike Plan" demonstrates best practices in multi-modal transportation planning. It offers retail, housing, parks and other amenities that are desirable to diverse populations. ■

## Engaged Residents

Rockville residents are engaged in their community and take an active interest in City government. They volunteer for City boards and commissions and turn out to vote in

City elections. Effective communication flows in both directions between the City government and its stakeholders. The City ensures residents have access to information about City services in a variety of formats and languages, and through a variety of tools. The City reaches out to all populations to provide relevant information in a timely manner, while actively listening and collecting feedback. ■



## Responsible Economic Development

Rockville has an enviable business climate. The community enjoys a balance of commercial and residential development, a mix of small and large businesses representing a wide variety of industries and services, and well-paying jobs. New investment is encouraged by innovative business incubators and the strong presence of the federal government and contractors. The development community is supported by an efficient development process that balances and respects private and community interests in the process. ■



## Stewardship of Infrastructure

Rockville maintains existing City infrastructure (i.e. bridges, water pipes, buildings, amenities, etc.) through responsible planning for future needs and sound fiscal decisions for the long term health of the City. ■



“The retreat was empowering. Having a dynamic facilitator enabled open dialogue and encouraged thoughts and visions – and then allowed us to build consensus around common themes. I feel that we have a collaborative Mayor and Council and this is a great opportunity for Rockville.”

– MAYOR NEWTON



“Effective City service delivery is most important to me. Rockville citizens need to feel welcomed when they enter City Hall. Citizens also need to feel a good response from City staff and their Mayor and Council.”

– COUNCILMEMBER ONLEY



“Now that we have identified policy initiatives, the challenge will be how to prioritize and implement them in a timely manner and with limited resources.”

– COUNCILMEMBER FEINBERG



“The Mayor and Council have outlined an ambitious set of goals for our term. We will need to collaborate with each other, work well with staff, and effectively engage stakeholders to make substantive progress on these issues.”

– COUNCILMEMBER PALAKOVICH CARR



“...some of us have very different visions of where we want Rockville to go. But we all love this City, which goes a long way. I was pleased that we were able to find so many areas of shared interest that we can address in the coming months.”

– COUNCILMEMBER MOORE

Read more from the Mayor and Council at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillereports](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillereports) (March 2014 edition, page 2a)



# In Their Own Words

## Mayor and Council Perspectives on Shared Vision

*A Question-and-Answer Session with Rockville's Elected Leaders*

### 1. Which vision statement is most important to you and why?

**NEWTON:** The overall vision statement of the Mayor and Council encompasses eight "critical success factors" and each one of them is important to reaching our overall goals for this term. By giving staff the direction they need to create a work plan for implementing these success factors, I believe we will encourage the "team effort" we all want and need in order to lead our City forward.

**FEINBERG:** The vision statements appear mutually exclusive; however, components of each are overlapping. These statements need to be synthesized. For example, the vision of "liveable neighborhoods" is dependent on the underpinnings of "responsible economic development" to provide the resources for the future. I believe they need to be looked at holistically.

**MOORE:** Although other priorities are arguably more important, I am particularly pleased that the Council has decided to invest in accelerating the City's tree-trimming efforts. It's really the only service where the City isn't doing its job. The City should trim its trees every 10 years; over time, the Council didn't allocate enough money and let the interval slip to about 18 years. I made fixing this a priority in the FY14 budget process last year, and am pleased that my colleagues old and new have agreed to get us on a better path. It's going to cost real money to get us down to a 10-year cycle, but it's the right thing to do.

**ONLEY:** Effective City service delivery is most important to me. Rockville citizens need to feel welcomed when they enter City Hall. Citizens also need to feel a good response from City staff and their Mayor and Council.

**PALAKOVICH CARR:** I look forward to working with my colleagues to improve the delivery of City services. We have a real opportunity to build upon the excellent work of City staff by substantively addressing concerns about inefficient processes raised by residents, local businesses, and other stakeholders.



**Serving a two-year term from November 2013 to November 2015 are: Standing, left to right, Councilmembers Julie Palakovich Carr and Beryl L. Feinberg. Seated, left to right, Councilmember Tom Moore, Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Virginia D. Onley.**

### 2. What did you learn about yourself as you collaborated at the retreat with the rest of the Mayor and Council?

**NEWTON:** I was reminded that if we were each willing to be open and honest and let our love of Rockville lead us to many areas of agreement on the needs of our citizens and city – we could be successful.

**FEINBERG:** I learned that when we disagree on policy directions or priorities, we share a common respect for one another with which to work through conflicts and seek common ground.

**MOORE:** I learned that we all have a lot in common.

**ONLEY:** I learned that my vision for the City is much like Mayor Newton and Councilmembers Feinberg, Moore and Palakovich Carr's vision.

**PALAKOVICH CARR:** I was pleasantly surprised to learn that the five of us share many core values about city government.

### 3. What are some of the challenges to the Mayor and Council as it works to achieve the vision it has set?

**NEWTON:** We are off to a great start. Setting our priorities in the FY 2015 budget is the next step – and with the skills we learned at the retreat these will be opportunities, not challenges. The Mayor and

Council will need to continue to work together to find ways to collaborate in order to accomplish the many goals we have set.

**FEINBERG:** Allocating scarce resources via the budget process is the greatest challenge as it establishes the blueprint for competing priorities of stakeholders and the timeline to implement multiple policy agendas. For example, new programs and initiatives compete for resources for basic infrastructure needs, and both of these compete with the objective to hold the tax rate constant and stabilize fees.

**MOORE:** The challenge with this or any other vision is how to pay for everything. Governing is all about balancing competing priorities, and the competition is fierce when it comes to taxpayer dollars. If we are going to fulfill our obligation to be good stewards of the King Farm Farmstead, for example, we have to spend less or raise more elsewhere. Fortunately, many of our priorities, like streamlining our development review process or updating the Charter to prohibit more forms of discrimination, are relatively low-cost items.

**ONLEY:** We must engage residents, continue to work together and foster trust and dependability as we govern.

**PALAKOVICH CARR:** The Mayor and Council have outlined an ambitious set of goals for our term. We will

need to collaborate with each other, work well with staff, and effectively engage stakeholders to make substantive progress on these issues.

### 4. How do you think the working relationship among the members of the Mayor and Council was strengthened at the retreat/by developing the vision?

**NEWTON:** It's much easier to work together when you have a relationship with someone and understand some of their thought processes. This retreat gave us the opportunity to spend concentrated time getting to know each other a little better. I look forward to working with the Council as we come together to lead the City through our joint vision.

**FEINBERG:** Opportunities to interact informally with minimal time constraints are important steps in enhancing mutual trust. Trust is essential for good governance and collaborative decision-making.

**MOORE:** All five of us are fresh off of a long and hard-fought campaign, and some of us have very different visions of where we want Rockville to go. But we all love this City, which goes a long way. I was pleased that we were able to find so many areas of shared interest that we can address in the coming months. It will pay many dividends going forward.

**ONLEY:** I personally appreciated the opportunity to put my concerns on the table and the openness of having issues discussed. At the end of the retreat I felt we discussed all areas of concern.

**PALAKOVICH CARR:** I was very encouraged by the trust and respect we gave each other. In spite of our different stances on policy, I think that each of us will try to work together for the betterment of our community.

### 5. Would you like to add anything about the Mayor and Council's vision or the retreat?

**NEWTON:** The retreat was empowering. Having a dynamic facilitator enabled open dialogue and encouraged thoughts and visions – and then allowed us to build consensus around common themes. I feel that we have a collaborative Mayor and Council and this is a great opportunity for Rockville.

**FEINBERG:** Now that we have identified policy initiatives, the challenge will be how to prioritize and implement in a timely manner and with limited resources.

**MOORE:** I thank Mayor Newton for setting up the retreat. It was a good use of our time and staff's time, and I think our term will be more productive as a result of her efforts.

**ONLEY:** The retreat was a great idea. We laid the groundwork for our vision for the City. I personally would like to have an update retreat in six months.

**PALAKOVICH CARR:** In addition to creating a policy agenda, the retreat was also an opportunity to work out some issues that have created tensions for past Councils. I valued the chance to discuss the process for nominations for boards and commissions and how the agenda is set for Council meetings. These conversations should pay dividends in terms of better working relationships on the Council.

*For details on the retreat, please refer to the special report on pages 1 and 2 Rockville Reports.*

*For descriptions of the "critical success factors" please refer to page 2.*



# Mayor & Council



Councilmember  
Tom Moore

Councilmember  
Beryl L. Feinberg

Mayor  
Bridget Donnell Newton

Councilmember  
Virginia D. Onley

Councilmember  
Julie Palakovich Carr

## FY15 Budget Update

City Manager Barb Matthews will present her proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget to the Mayor and Council on March 17.

Matthews will recommend several major expenditures to address the City's aging infrastructure and facility needs in the operating budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

"Over the past few years,

some of these items have been deferred as a result of tighter budgets," Matthews said. "We are now reaching

a critical point where we must address these needs."

Matthews also will recommend a 2 percent cost of living wage adjustment for regular City employees and one-time performance-based compensation for those who meet certain evaluation standards.

Matthews' capital budget recommendations for FY 2015-FY 2019 include several new projects, including a new City email system, Horizon Hill Park improvements and enhancements to the City's information technology network infrastructure. Other capital budget changes involve increased funding for bridge rehabilitation, with borrowing or bonding recommended in FY 15 and FY 19. Design and construction costs for the West End Park Noise Barrier also will be adjusted based on updated information from the state, with a corresponding increase in the planned FY 17 bond issue amount.

The proposed budget assumes that the property tax rate will remain flat for the seventh consecutive year, at \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed value. The final rate will be decided by the Mayor and Council.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/budget](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/budget) or call 240-314-8400. ✦

### AT A GLANCE

- Presentation of FY15 budget & CIP: March 17
- Public Hearing #1: March 31
- Public Hearing #2: April 7
- Public Hearing #3: April 21
- Public Hearing #4: April 28
- Public Record closes: April 29
- Adoption of FY15 budget & CIP: May 12



This network of rapid transit corridors is part of the county's plan.

## Rockville Joins County Steering Committee on Bus Rapid Transit

Rockville will be represented on a Montgomery County steering committee that is working on the county's transit corridor functional master plan.

In November, the County Council unanimously approved the Countywide Transit Corridor Functional Master Plan. The plan changes county policy and endorses the creation of a county network of 10 bus rapid transit corridors, which include Rockville Pike (MD 355) and Veirs Mill Road.

Rockville planners will participate in county and state working groups specific to corridors that are within the City limits. In adopting the overall plan, the County Council said residents, business owners and other stakeholders would be given the opportunity to weigh in on the design for each corridor.

The City is studying how the proposed routes may interact with the Town Center area, especially in terms of mobility, pedestrian access to the Metro station and land uses.

In addition to bus rapid transit routes, the transit corridor master plan also endorses a new third track on the MARC Brunswick Line between Frederick County and the Metropolitan Grove station. A third track would allow MARC service to expand and could bring more MARC trains to Rockville.

For more information on the master plan process or steering committee work, email Andy Gunning at [agunning@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:agunning@rockvillemd.gov). ✦

## Excellent Environmentalist in Your Neighborhood?

The City of Rockville's Environmental Excellence Awards recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Nominations are being accepted in the following categories through Wednesday, March 5, for awards to be presented by the Mayor and Council during

Earth Month in April:

- Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship
- Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Practices
- Outstanding Achievement in Green Building Technology/Design
- Outstanding Environmental Education and Academic Achievement

Eligible individuals must live, work or study within the city. Eligible organizations must have an office in Rockville or significant operations within Rockville. Building projects considered as part of a nomination must be within the city limits.

For more information, application forms and eligibility details, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/awards](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/awards), email [environment@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:environment@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8870. ✦

## MEETINGS & DROP IN SCHEDULE

All general sessions, worksessions and public hearings are televised on Rockville channel 11 and are available on streaming video at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Community Forum" portion at most meetings. Meetings are at 7 p.m. and are subject to change.

- March 3 (Monday)
- March 10 (Monday)
- March 17 (Monday)
- March 24 (Monday)
- March 31 (Monday)

The mayor and one councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 is appreciated. Along with Mayor Newton, the councilmember scheduled is: Julie Palakovich Carr on March 10.

## IN BRIEF

### City Invites Fourth Graders to Enter 'If I Were Mayor' Contest

What would you do if you were mayor?

Fourth graders in Rockville are invited to share their ideas in the annual Maryland Municipal League (MML) and Maryland Mayors' Association "If I Were Mayor" essay contest.

This year's essay theme is "Engaging My Community." Essays of up to 275 words in length should be submitted to MML (1212 West St., Annapolis, Md., 21401) by March 31.

One winning essay will be selected from each of MML's 11 regional districts throughout the state. The 11 winners will be recognized at a ceremony in May in Annapolis.

MML will send entries to Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, who will select a City of Rockville winner and honorable mentions. The winner will be the Mayor of Rockville for a day. The honor of serving as Mayor for a Day includes lunch with Newton, a tour of City Hall, and participation in the 2014 Memorial Day Parade.

Students should answer the following questions in their essay as if they were mayor:

- What project or event would you use to involve your community?
- Why is this project or event important to you?
- How would you encourage your fellow city officials, businesses and residents to participate in the project/event?
- How would you spread the word about it? Describe one or two examples.

For more information on how to enter, go to [www.mdmunicipal.org](http://www.mdmunicipal.org) and click on "Mayor's Essay Contest" under "Programs and Services" or call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280.

### City Seeks Ethics Commissioners

The Mayor and Council recently established an Ethics Commission as part of a revision to Rockville's Ethics Ordinance to comply with state law. The commission's purpose is to:

- Ensure the public has the highest trust in City officials and employees,
- Assure the public that decisions are made impartially and with independence of judgment, and
- Ensure City business is conducted free from improper influence.

The commission has openings for five members. It will consider policy, advise the Mayor and Council and process complaints made alleging violations of the City's Ethics Code.

One of the first members will serve one year; two members for two years; and two members for three years. Eventually all members will serve three-year terms.

To apply, complete the Statement of Financial Interests and submit it along with the Expression of Interest Form. These forms and more information on commission duties and applicant eligibility are available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions) (select "Ethics Commission"). Deadline to apply is March 14.

Questions? Call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 or email [cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov).



## Rockville Hosts Free Tax Preparation Appointments and Walk-Ins

The City of Rockville is hosting free tax preparation sessions throughout tax season for families who earned less than \$52,000 in 2013 or are seniors in need of assistance.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which is run by the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services' Community Action Agency, provides IRS-certified professionals and volunteers to help low- to moderate-income families maximize their tax refunds and credits, including the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Appointments are available from 3-9 p.m. on Wednesdays through April 9 at the City's Community Services Division offices, 20 Courthouse Square, Suite 205.

Call 240-314-8310 to inquire about eligibility or to schedule an appointment. Appointments may also be made online at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp), or by calling 311, 240-777-0311, TTY 301-251-4850 or Maryland Relay 711. Learn more about VITA and find more locations at that website.

Seniors in need of tax preparation help may call 240-777-2577 for an appointment on Mondays through April 14 at the Rockville Senior Center through a Montgomery County and AARP service.

To learn more about volunteering opportunities with VITA, call 240-777-1123 or email [VITA@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:VITA@montgomerycountymd.gov).



**Bicycle recipients will also receive helmets and be fitted for both their bike and helmet.**

## Earn a Bike with the Terrific Bikes Program

Rockville kids can earn a refurbished bike from the City of Rockville and Bikes for the World's "Terrific Bikes" program this spring.

The program is open to students in grades 1-5 in a Rockville public or private elementary school or those who are home schooled. Students need to find a sponsor (e.g., a teacher or a relative), and complete six responsible acts, such as perfect attendance for one month or volunteering at a charitable organization for an hour.

Participation forms will be distributed at Rockville elementary schools and are online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling) (select "Bike Award and Bicycle Recycling Programs"). Forms must be postmarked no later than March 31. Participants will be recognized at a Mayor and Council meeting in May; the bikes will be distributed on May 18.

If you are interested in donating a bike to the Terrific Bikes Program, call 301-461-5349. The program's co-sponsor, Bikes for the World, is a nonprofit that repairs used bikes to be shipped to developing countries. Visit [www.bikesfortheworld.org](http://www.bikesfortheworld.org) to learn more.

## Diversity Leadership Training Offers Tools to Foster Understanding

*Service Learning Credits Available to Student Participants*

Rockville's Human Rights Commission will offer diversity leadership training on Saturday, March 29 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The program is for students attending Rockville-area high schools or Montgomery College. The dynamic, highly interactive training provides students with tools to handle difficult situations by giving them a better understanding of diverse populations.

Student Service Learning Credits will be offered. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/humanrights](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/humanrights) or to register call 240-314-8316.

# In The Community

## Citizens Police Academy Shows What it Takes to Be an Officer

*Course Includes Looks at Crime Scene Processing and Investigations*

Residents have the opportunity to go behind the badge this spring at the Rockville Citizens Police Academy. Participants 18 and older will learn about all aspects of the police department, receive hands-on training and earn a graduation certificate upon course completion.

The Rockville City Police Department is accepting applications for the upcoming academy. The free course will meet weekly in April and May at Glenview Mansion, located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr. Topics include:

- Crime Scene Process
- Firearms Training Simulations
- K9 Unit Demonstrations
- Traffic Law

- Detectives and Investigation
- Bomb Unit

For more information and registration, email Cpl. Ken Matney at [kmatney@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:kmatney@rockvillemd.gov). Registration is open until the academy start date.



Get a glimpse of the action at a recent Citizens Police Academy in these two reports on the City's YouTube channel,

[www.youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville):

- Citizens Police Academy: **Simulations Class**
- Rockville **Citizens Police Academy** Graduation

For more information about the Rockville City Police Department, go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/police](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/police). ❖

## Events Begin Early Leading Up to Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22. But why limit environmental efforts to just one day? Rockville is celebrating with a variety of free activities beginning in March. Consider participating in these pre-Earth Month events and learn how to stay green all year long:

**March 18: Watts Branch Watershed Assessment Meeting**, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Card Room at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. City staff will describe the assessment's purpose, schedule and tasks, and will discuss watershed restoration progress since the 2001 study. See story at right or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/watersheds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/watersheds).

**March 22: H2O Summit**, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, 1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring. Rockville's Environmental Management Division, in coordination with Montgomery County, the



**Help your community: Take part in a watershed cleanup.**

City of Gaithersburg and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, will present a day of seminars, workshops, a Green Expo and music, as well as crafts and hands-on activities for kids. Visit [www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/h2osummit.faces](http://www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/h2osummit.faces).

Read April's Rockville Reports for a full list of Earth Month events. To learn more about how to get involved and live greener and healthier, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment). ❖



**About 3,000 runners compete in the Twilight Runfest.**

## Twilighter Kick-Off Day and Party Set for March 23

Join Rockville Rotary, Darcars, Montgomery County Road Runners and the City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department as we count down to the 29th Darcars Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest on July 19.

On Sunday, March 23, from 3-6 p.m., organizers are hosting the first ever "Twilighter Kick-Off Day," when runners can get a registration discount and celebrate with friends at Bar Louie in Rockville Town Square.

Sign up for the 2014 Twilight Runfest at [www.rockvilletwilighter.org](http://www.rockvilletwilighter.org) any time on March 23 and your race registration is only \$20. The following day, the fee goes up to \$34. Win cash prizes and more at the Bar Louie race kick-off party.

Twilight Runfest organizers have added new event features this year. In addition to

the popular 8K and 1-mile Fun Run, we will have our first Family Fitness Walk.

Expect to hear great live music along the running route this year. The race will end with a huge block party, free music, food and drinks.

The Runfest is the signature fundraising event for the Rockville Youth Recreation Fund. Last year, the fund raised more than \$50,000 in scholarships for Rockville children who were not otherwise able to participate in City recreation programs. About \$40,000 of that was raised by the Runfest.

Can't make the race but still want to help? Learn how to donate to the fund by calling 240-314-8620.

For more information on Twilighter Kick-Off Day or the race itself, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/twilightrunfest](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/twilightrunfest) or call 240-314-8620. ❖

## City to Hold Second Meeting on Watts Branch Watershed Assessment

*Scheduled for Completion This Spring, the Assessment Will Guide Planning*

The City will hold the second of two public meetings on the Watts Branch Watershed Assessment from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, in the Card Room at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

City staff and Bay Land Consultants will discuss findings from last year's field work and analysis of conditions in the watershed, which covers the western half of Rockville. Staff will also discuss watershed restoration progress since a 2001 watershed study, and the City's watershed improvement strategies for the future.

The new study includes stream measurements and water sampling, an inventory of stream erosion and an evaluation of pollution sources from commercial properties and residential neighbor-

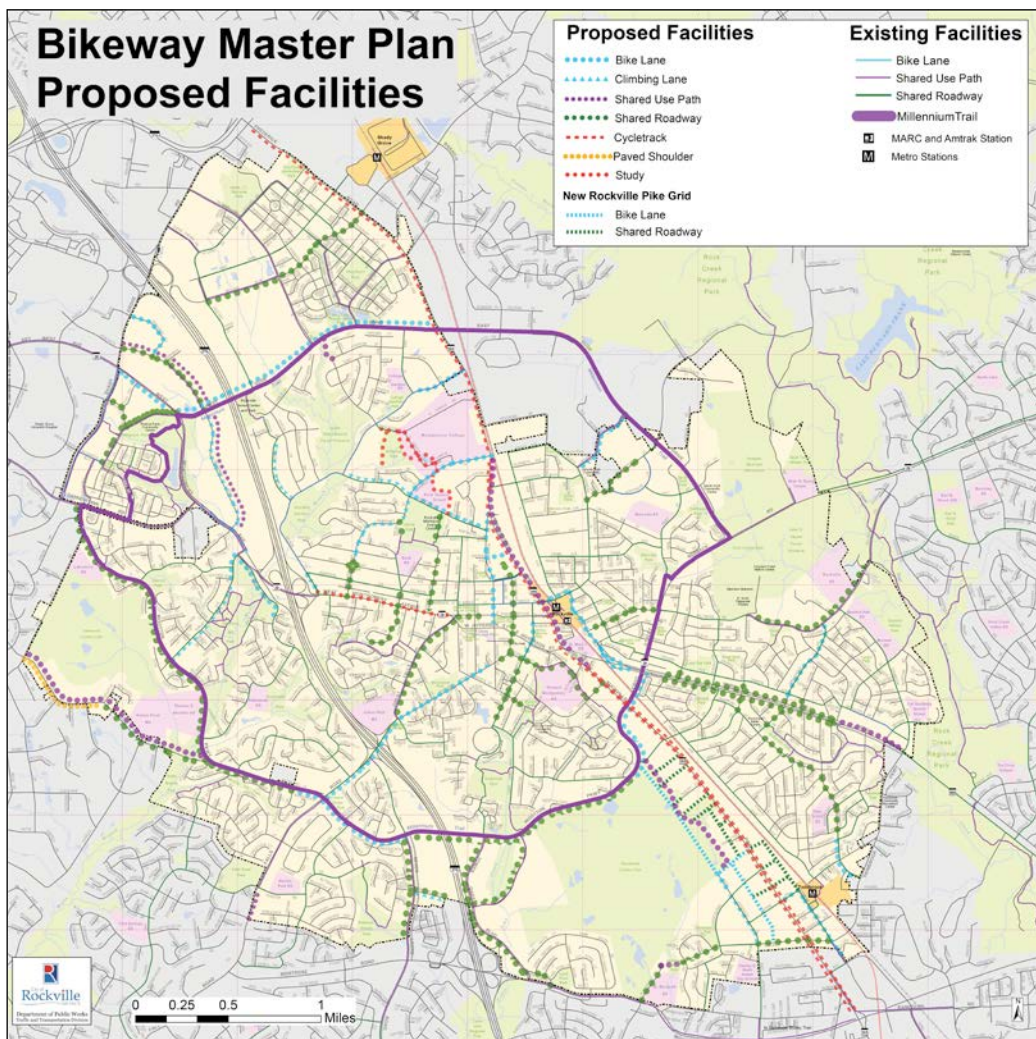
hoods. The assessment is expected to conclude this spring. Once complete, the assessment will be used to guide Rockville's water resources planning for the next 10 years. The City will track and, where possible, predict potential erosion, infrastructure damage and water quality concerns.

To view the presentation from the first public meeting, held Dec. 3, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6571](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6571).

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment) and select "Streams, Ponds and Watersheds" or contact Lise Soukup of the Department of Public Works' Environmental Management Division, at [lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov) or at 240-314-8874. ❖



# News You Can Use



## Rockville's Bikeway Master Plan Update Underway

*First Update in 10 Years Offers Chance to Shape Car-Free Transportation*

The City is inviting residents to weigh in on an update of the Rockville Bikeway Master Plan.

The plan was last updated in 2004, laying the groundwork for expanding the City's bicycle facility network over the past decade to more than 34 miles dedicated to bicycles. The 2014 Bikeway Master Plan update offers the opportunity to shape the way people get around Rockville for years to come.

The 2004 Bikeway Master Plan can be viewed at [www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/520](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/520). View the Draft 2014 Bikeway Master Plan at [www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan). View the Draft Bikeway Recommendations Map

at [www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/6965](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/6965).

The Planning Commission is scheduled to hear a presentation on the draft plan on March 12 at 7 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The Planning Commission is expected to hold a public hearing on the draft plan on April 9 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Those wishing to speak may sign up by calling 240-314-8200 by 4 p.m. on the day of the hearing. Priority will be given to speakers who sign up in advance. Those speaking as individuals will be allotted three minutes, and those speaking on behalf of

organizations will be allotted five minutes.

Public comments also may be submitted:

- By letter to the City of Rockville Planning Commission, c/o Kevin Belanger, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850.
- By email to [bikeways@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:bikeways@rockvillemd.gov). Please include your name, address, and affiliation (if applicable). Comments received without a valid name and address cannot be included in the public record.
- By filling out a 2014 Bikeway Master Plan Testimony form at [www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan).



**This 6-week program costs \$115 for Rockville residents and \$195 for non-residents.**

## Summer Playgrounds Program Offers Supervised, Drop-In Option for Kids

Rockville's Summer Playgrounds program is a great place for children to meet new friends, stay active and participate in exciting new activities.

Creative, nurturing staff will lead sports and games, crafts, nature exploration and additional activities for six weeks, from June 23-July 31. Registration opens April 2.

Ten playground sites in parks and schools throughout Rockville neighborhoods will be open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The program is offered through the City's Recreation and Parks Department and is open to kids ages 6 to 12.

Trips and activities are optional add-ons (for a nominal fee) and are available to Summer Playgrounds registrants. They include bowling, swimming, tennis and a visit to Adventure Park USA in New Market. New this year are morning and afternoon extended hours, from 8-9:30 a.m. and 3:30-6 p.m., at Elwood Smith Community Center and Park.

Learn more in the Spring Recreation Guide at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide) or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/summer-playgrounds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/summer-playgrounds) for more information.

## INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

### Spring Recreation Registration Starts March 13

Sign up for a spring class with Rockville Recreation and Parks to get moving this season. Try Zumbini – Zumba for toddlers – at Thomas Farm Community Center to get active and have fun with your toddler.

A session of a newly-popular fitness program gaining traction around the globe, Bokwa, is being offered as well. This group cardio fitness class includes popular music and easy moves which trace numbers and letters (no counting of steps required).

Teens and adults can also gear up for the warm weather by taking classes such as Circuit Step, Power Sculpt or Jazzercise.

Kids, catch the action at King Farm Park with t-ball, soccer, street hockey and tennis classes!

Get all the details on Spring Break Mini-Camps at community centers on page 15 of the Spring Recreation Guide. Information on Spring Break Adventure Trips for teens can be found on page 28.

Guides will be mailed to homes in early March and are available at Rockville libraries, community centers and City Hall. Find the guide online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide).

Find your course numbers in the guide and enroll online at [rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov](http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov). Registration opens March 13 for residents and March 20 for non-residents. Most classes and programs begin the week of April 7.

For more information, call 240-314-8620.



Spring Recreation Guide

## Spring Forward and Check Your Smoke Alarms

As you change your clocks March 9, remember to check your home's smoke alarms. A working smoke alarm is the best way of notifying residents of a fire.

Smoke alarms are required to be replaced every 10 years from the date of manufacture in order to comply with a new state law that took effect in July. The devices should also be tested at least once a month.

The new law calls for older smoke alarms to be replaced with new, sealed, long-life battery-powered smoke alarms by no later than Jan. 1, 2018, or when there is a change of tenant, test failure or a building permit is issued.

Homeowners with hard-wired smoke alarms should not replace their devices with battery-powered alarms.

The new fire code compliant smoke alarms can be purchased at most local home improvement stores.

For more information on smoke alarms, where and when they are required and general fire safety tips for your home, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety).

## Early Bird Rate for Camp Ends March 18

*Let us rock your summer!*

Rockville offers more than 65 different camps to pique your child's interests this summer. Register your kids for a fun summer playing sports, swimming, creating art, exploring science, drama and enjoying many other activities offered in our specialty and traditional camps.

The City offers weekly and multi-week options. Camps are starting to fill. An early bird discount for some camps ends March 18.

Camps run from June 16-Aug. 22 and are open to residents and non-residents, age 3-16. Some camps offer before and after care and bus



Registration continues for Rockville summer camps.

transportation.

To view the Summer Camp Guide and register, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/camps](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/camps). Pick up a guide and register in person at any Rockville community center, City Hall or online via Rock Enroll.

For more than 50 years, Rockville summer camps have given thousands of kids a memorable summer experience. For more information, call 240-314-8620.

## Attention Dog Owners



**Your dog did his duty, please do yours.**

**Clean up after your dog.**





Visitors can enjoy light refreshments included with the wine tasting.

### Wine Tasting at Glenview Mansion to Benefit Rockville Sister Cities

Attend a spring wine tasting benefit at Glenview Mansion Friday, March 28 at 7 p.m. to help support Rockville Sister City Corporation.

Explore new wines and learn how to make wine punch – the latest trend. Discover warm weather wines, wine drinks and appetizers to serve at your outdoor cookouts and evening patio parties this summer.

Rockville Sister City Corporation supports exchange programs and other intercultural activities between Rockville and Pinneberg, Germany, and between Rockville and Jiaxing, China.

Tickets are \$25 if purchased by March 20 or \$30 at the door. Reserve your spot by calling 301-230-0890, or visit [www.rockvillesistercities.org](http://www.rockvillesistercities.org) for more information.

### Sponsor a Special Event

The City hosts several popular special events throughout the year, presenting local businesses and residents the opportunity to provide a sponsorship.

A variety of sponsorship levels is available. This year's events include:

**Hometown Holidays:** The City's 26th annual Town Center weekend festival will include musical performances on five stages, a Taste of Rockville featuring area restaurants, children's amusements, the Memorial Day parade and more; May 24-26.

**Uncorked:** A wine and music festival will feature cooking demonstrations and two stages of musical entertainment in Town Center; Aug. 23.

**Antique and Classic Car Show:** One of the region's premier car shows includes more than two dozen car clubs showing more than 500 vehicles on the grounds of Rockville Civic Center Park; Oct. 18.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, contact Colleen McQuitty, special events manager, at 240-314-8606 or [cmcquitty@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:cmcquitty@rockvillemd.gov) or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/events/sponsorship](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/events/sponsorship).

### Save the Date: Rockville Science Day, April 6

Rockville's 25th annual Science Day will be held on Sunday, April 6, from noon to 5 p.m. at Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St. The free event is organized by the Rockville Science Consortium and sponsored by the City of Rockville, Montgomery College, and the Rockville Science Center.

Launch rockets, meet animals, program robots or take part in hands-on experiments to experience science first hand. More than 70 exhibitors will help families enjoy a day of learning and fun. Through a variety of activities, participants can learn about a wide range of sciences including the environment, space exploration and biotechnology.

In celebration of its 25th year, Science Day organizers are presenting events throughout the weekend of April 5-6. Tune in to Rockville 11 or keep an eye on the City's social media channels (@Rockville411 on Twitter or City of Rockville, City Hall on Facebook) for more details as the event nears.

To learn more about the Rockville Science Consortium or Rockville Science Day, visit [www.rockvillescience.org](http://www.rockvillescience.org).

# Arts & Entertainment

## Get Ready for Hometown Holidays with 'Music Mondays'

Each Monday through May 19, an artist performing at this year's Hometown Holidays will be showcased on the HTH Facebook page. "Like" us on Facebook and get to know the bands that will be taking the stage Memorial Day weekend.

This year's lineup offers a variety of musical styles from local, regional and national bands. Music Monday posts include short band biographies and links to band websites and videos.

Hometown Holidays runs from 2 – 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 24 and 25, in Rockville Town Center. With five stages of music and more than 30 free live performances, the Taste of Rockville, and kids amusements and activities, you won't want to kick off summer anywhere else.

Be sure to catch Rockville's 70th annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade through Town Center, beginning at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 26.

For more information on Hometown Holidays, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/htb](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/htb) or call the Special Events Division at 240-314-8620.

Performers announced via Music Monday on Facebook can be found at the right. More will follow in the coming weeks.

#### B Side Shuffle

- Combines funk, rock and reggae for a fun and unique sound.
- From in and around Washington, D.C.
- Saturday, May 24, at 8 p.m./Hungerford's Stage.
- [www.bsideshuffle.com](http://www.bsideshuffle.com)
- YouTube: Bsideshuffle

#### Lloyd Dobler Effect

- A fan favorite playing rock, alternative and pop music.
- From Washington, D.C.
- Sunday, May 25, at 4:30 p.m./Maryland Avenue Stage.
- [www.lloyddoblereffect.com](http://www.lloyddoblereffect.com)
- YouTube: ldebruno

#### Lionize

- Rock 'n roll.
- From Silver Spring, Md.
- Sunday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m./Beach Stage.
- [www.lionizemusic.com](http://www.lionizemusic.com)
- YouTube: Lionizemusic

#### American Aquarium

- Rock 'n roll and alternative country.
- From Raleigh, N.C.
- Sunday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m./Maryland Avenue Stage.
- [www.americanaquarium.net](http://www.americanaquarium.net)
- YouTube: americanaquarium

#### Brothers Osborne

- Duo of John and TJ Osborne named one of country music's upcoming stars.
- From Deale, Md.
- Saturday, May 24, at 8:30 p.m./Beach Stage.
- [www.brothersosborne.com](http://www.brothersosborne.com)
- YouTube: Brothers Osborne

**NOW ACCEPTING:** The City's application for the 70th Annual Memorial Day Parade are available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/htb](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/htb) and must be submitted by Friday, April 5. Questions? Call 240-314-8620. ✦



Lloyd Dobler Effect will be back at Hometown Holidays by popular demand.

## Student Masterpieces Featured in Exhibit at Glenview Gallery

Rockville's Glenview Mansion Art Gallery will host its annual Student Art Show exhibit from March 2-20, featuring the works of Rockville students in kindergarten through grade 12.

Works of art will include 2D and 3D pieces in a range of media. Artwork from students in grades 4-12 will be judged and ribbons will be awarded.

This popular show opens with a free reception and the presentation of awards to winners on Sunday, March 2, from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, which is accessible and welcomes service dogs, is located in the historic mansion at 603



"New Life," by Wootton High School senior Alice He, was included in last year's Student Art Show.

Edmonston Dr. Its monthly exhibits are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or [jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov), or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/arts](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/arts). ✦

## Fitzgerald Theatre Welcomes Opera, Ballet, Band, Symphony and Student Performers in March

Rockville's F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre welcomes a variety of artists to the stage in March in a series of performances you won't want to miss.

Catch the last days of Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Yeomen of the Guard or The Merryman and His Maid," on March 1 at 8 p.m. and March 2 at 2 p.m. Tickets for this Victorian Lyric Opera Company show are \$16-\$24.

Rockville Civic Ballet's spring production, including "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" and "Planets," will be presented on March 8 at 7:30 p.m. and March

9 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$13-\$17. "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," based on a Goethe ballad, follows the magical misadventures of an apprentice sorcerer and features music by Paul Dukas. Music in Holst's "Planets" suite evokes strong emotions, such as power, charisma, awe and harmony.

On March 16 at 3 p.m., take in a "Composer Spotlight: Elliott Del Borgo and Friends," presented by the Rockville Concert Band. The concert is free but a \$5 donation is appreciated.

The National String

Symphonia makes its debut performance at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre when it presents "Global Warmth" on Saturday, March 22, at 8 p.m. Its varied program ranges from the English folksongs of Rutter's "Suite for Strings" to the fiery "Fuga con Parajillo." Soprano Melissa Jean Chavez will join conductor David A. Fanning for this performance. Tickets are \$10-\$37.50.

Home School Talents Showcase brings ideas to life with singing, dancing and humor in "History, History, History" on Friday,

March 28, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 29, at 2:30 and 7 p.m. The production is set in a film school class tasked with creating an historical documentary that is also a musical. Though the task is daunting, in the end, they have just one problem – is it really history? Call 301-294-0520 for ticket information.

For tickets and information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre) or call 240-314-8690. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located in Rockville's Civic Center Park at 603 Edmonston Dr. ✦



## FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration required, register online at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR**, 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800. **CH**
- **Rockville City Hall**, 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find something that interests you at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide).

## March

- 1 Indoor Yard Sale** The thrift shop at the Rockville Senior Center is being cleared out from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Carnation Room. Admission is free and sales are cash only. For more information, call 240-314-8800. **SR**
- 1 MELT** Come see how three little balls can change your life. Learn this simple self-treatment that helps your whole body feel better from 9:30-11 a.m. MELT balls are provided and the mini kit may be purchased from the instructor for \$25. Register for course #45394. Cost is \$30 R/\$35 NR. **SR**
- 1 Bookworms – Possum and the Peeper (Adult/child)** Spend time with your child as you curl up with a good book at the nature center. This month,

“Possum and the Peeper” will be read and you’ll get to take a copy of the book home. The program runs from 10-10:45 a.m. Adult participation is required. Register for course #45103; cost is \$10 R/\$12 NR. **CC**

**2-20 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibit – Student Art Show** Come see the artwork of Rockville’s budding artists. The annual Student Art Show returns to the gallery this March, with an opening reception on March 2 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. *Free. See page 6 for more details.*

**2 Winter Ramble – Family Hike** Join a naturalist on a hike through the Hayes Forest Preserve from 1-2 p.m. Trails are not stroller-friendly. All participants, including adults, must register and children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Register for course #45417; cost is \$3 R/\$5 NR. **CC**

**4 Mardi Gras Party** Don your favorite mask, fluffy boa or funky hat in purple, green or gold from 2-3:30 p.m. There will be musical entertainment and refreshments to follow the program. Cost: Free M/\$5 NM; course #45127. **SR**

**6 Wine Workshop – Loire Valley Wines** Discover the wine making history of this large French wine producing area, as well as the major grapes and wine producing regions along the extensive length of the Loire River. The workshop runs from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and is open to ages 21 and older. Register for course #45773; cost is \$35 R/\$39 NR. **GM**

**6 Nature Tots – Deer** Discover the wonders of nature with your child with a naturalist at this Nature Tots program, from 10-11:30 a.m. Adult participation is required; dress for the weather. Register for course #45094; cost is \$8 R/ \$10 NR. **CC**

**7-April 11 Amigos Play (Adult/child)** Learn and/or

practice Spanish alongside your child (age 1 month to 5 years old) at the Twinbrook Community Rec. Center. This class, on Fridays from 10-10:45 a.m., includes songs, stories, movement and age-appropriate interactive language activities. Siblings under the age of 10 months may attend for free, no registration required; sibling fee is \$80. Adult participation is required. Register for course #45913; cost is \$125 R/\$135 NR.

**8 Star Party** Discover objects easily visible in the night sky, look through telescopes with an astronomer and enjoy a campfire treat. The Star Party runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. All participants must register for course #45115. Cost is \$6 R/\$8 NR. **CC**

**8,9 Rockville Civic Ballet** “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” and “Planets” The Rockville Civic Ballet consists of 75 adult and children dancers and annually performs a spring production. *See page 6 for more information.* **FSF**

**12 “Spamalot” at Toby’s** Rockville seniors can take a trip to Toby’s in Columbia to see the first regional production of “Spamalot.” Taken from the classic film comedy, “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” this Tony Award-winning musical raises silliness to an art form. The trip runs from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Register for course #45769; cost is \$70 MEM/\$88 NM/\$110 NR. **SR**

**13 Real Food Fermentation** Learn the artisanal craft of food fermentation and add probiotics to your daily diet from 7-9 p.m. An instructor will teach you how to make delicious probiotic lacto-fermented foods that are healthy and your whole family will enjoy. The class is open to ages 18 and up. Note: There is a \$12 supply fee payable to the instructor at the workshop. Register for course #45841; cost is \$21 R/\$28 NR. **SR**

**14 Nature Center Night Out** Join a night hike followed by a campfire and snacks from 6:30-

9:30 p.m. Learn about nocturnal animals through nature activities, crafts games and more. Open to ages 7-12, cost is \$15 R/\$18 NR. **CC**

**15 Saturday Story and Hike (Adult/child)** Stop by the nature center with your child from 10-10:45 a.m. A naturalist will read a story and lead a hike based on the story. Dress for the weather. Adult participation is required. Register for course #45112; cost is \$4 R/\$6 NR. **CC**

**16 Rockville Concert Band Composer Spotlight: Elliot Del Borgo and Friends** *See page 6 for more information.*

**20 Twitter Class for Seniors** Twitter is an online social networking service that enables users to send and read text-based posts of up to 140 characters. Come learn how you can use this messaging tool as a new form of communication from 1-3 p.m. Register for course #45827; cost is \$9 MEM/\$11 NM/\$15 NR. **SR**

**20,22 Nature Tots – All About Bones** Learn “All About Bones” as a naturalist helps you explore this new nature topic through nature play, crafts, stories and a hike. Dress for the weather and adult participation is required. Both sessions are from 10-11:30 a.m. and cost \$8 R/\$10 NR. For March 20, register for course #45095; for March 22, register for course #45096. **CC**

**26 Senior Golf Organizational Meeting** Learn about our senior golf group and register for the spring season, 10 a.m. The one-time registration fee: \$6 MEM/\$7 R/\$9 NR,NM **SR**

**27 Stay in Sight** Seniors can learn about eye diseases and problems that can occur among the senior population. An ophthalmologist will describe signs and symptoms of common vision conditions, including cataracts, glaucoma, dry eye syndrome and refraction problems that become more evident as we age. The class is free and

will be held in the Azalea Room from 1-2 p.m. Register for course #45202. **SR**

**27 Table Tennis Tournament** Rockville Senior Center members can show off their table tennis skills in a friendly competition. Interested participants must register for course #45861. The tournament will be held in the Game Room from 1-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$5. **SR**

**29 Spring Night Hike and Campfire** Enjoy a night hike into the forest at dusk to look and listen for signs of spring from 7:30-8:30 p.m. After the hike, gather around the campfire to enjoy a campfire treat. An adult must accompany children and all participants must register for course #45117. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for seating. Cost is \$5 R/\$6 NR. **CC**

## Boards and Commissions

*Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the City website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions).*

**5 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**6 Environment Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the first Thursday of the month.

**8 Board of Appeals** 9 a.m. Meets the second Saturday of the month and are televised on Rockville 11.

**11 Human Services Advisory Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

**12 Cultural Arts Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the second Wednesday of the month.

**12,19 Planning Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month and are televised on Rockville 11.

For the most up-to-date event listings visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek) and sign up for the weekly email newsletter.

**18 Rockville Seniors, Inc.** 1 p.m. Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr.

**19 Rockville Housing Enterprises** 6:30 p.m. Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 621-A Southlawn Ln.

**20 Senior Citizens Commission** 1 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr.

**20 Historic District Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month and are televised on Rockville 11.

**25 Traffic and Transportation Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

**26 Human Rights Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month.

**27 Recreation and Park Advisory Board** 7 p.m. Meets the fourth Thursday of the month.

## Vacancies

*To learn more about any board or commission, call the City Clerk’s Office at 240-314-8280 or go to [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). The City is seeking applicants for:*

- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Environment Commission (2)
- Ethics Commission (5)
- Historic District Commission (1)
- Human Rights Commission (2)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (3)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (2)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Recreation and Parks Advisory Board (1)
- Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation, Inc. (1)
- Rockville Sister City Corporation (2)
- Rockville Economic Development Inc. (4)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Traffic and Transportation Commission (1)

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT [WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV](http://WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV)

# El Programa Summer Playgrounds ofrece actividades supervisadas, sin necesidad de aviso previo, para niños

El programa Summer Playground de Rockville es el lugar perfecto para que sus hijos conozcan nuevos amigos, se mantengan activos y participen en actividades novedosas y emocionantes.

Empleados creativos y dedicados organizarán actividades deportivas, juegos, artesanías, exploración de la naturaleza y otras actividades durante seis semanas, del 23 de junio al 31 de julio. Las inscripciones inician el 2 de abril.

Diez campos de juego en parques

y escuelas a lo largo y ancho de los vecindarios de Rockville estarán abiertos de lunes a viernes de 9:30 a.m. a 3:30 p.m. Este programa se ofrece a través del Departamento de Parques y Recreación de la ciudad, y está disponible para niños de 6 a 12 años de edad.

Los paseos y actividades son adicionales (a una tarifa módica) y están disponibles para los participantes de Summer Playgrounds. Algunas de estas

actividades son boliche, natación, tenis y una visita a Adventure Park. Este año también hemos agregado un horario extendido en las mañanas y tardes, de 8 a 9:30 a.m. y de 3:30 a 6 p.m., en el Centro Comunitario y Parque de Elwood Smith.

Para más información, revise la Guía Recreativa de Primavera en [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide) o visite [www.rockvillemd.gov/summerplaygrounds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/summerplaygrounds). ✦



Este programa de seis semanas cuesta \$115 para los residentes de Rockville, y \$195 para no-residentes.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE || Watch [www.youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville)





Credit: Maryland Historical Trust.

Acting Recreation and Parks Director Christine Henry (far right) joined Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton (second from left) at the ceremony.

### Rockville Police Headquarters Wins Preservation Award

The Rockville City Police Department headquarters was recently recognized by the Maryland Historical Trust with a 2014 Maryland Preservation Award.

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton accepted the award for Excellence in Commercial/Institutional Rehabilitation during a ceremony Feb. 4 at the Governor Calvert House in Annapolis. The award recognized the \$8.9 million conversion of the historic post office, at the corner of West Montgomery Avenue and North Washington Street, into a new city police headquarters with a 14,500-square-foot annex.

Annapolis-based architects Wheeler Goodman Masek adapted the building for reuse, preserving its spacious lobby featuring 15-foot ceilings, original bulletin boards, brass and glass postal boxes and a mural depicting a view of Sugarloaf Mountain.

To view a Rockville 11 report about the project and its dedication, visit the City's [YouTube channel](#) and search "Police Station Grand Opening."

### Police Take the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics

Five members of the Rockville City Police Department plunged into the frigid waters of the Chesapeake Bay on Friday, Jan. 24 at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis to raise money for Special Olympics Maryland.

This was the fifth year in a row City police took the plunge. Members of the department have raised \$2,380 so far this year, part of the \$1.8 million Special Olympics Maryland is on track to raise through this year's plunge.

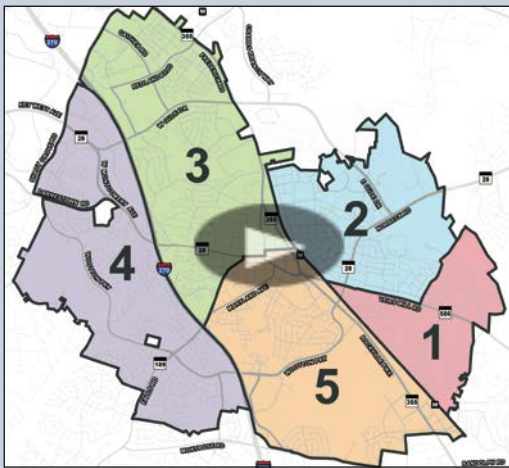
Weather led organizers to cancel the plunge for the general public (it has been rescheduled for March 8) but a plunge for law enforcement and corporate partners went on as scheduled in 18 degree temperatures.

Cpl. Chris Day and Chief Terry Treschuk are the only members of the City's police department to have taken the plunge all five years.

During that time, Rockville police have raised more than \$21,000 for the Special Olympics Maryland.

Plunge donations are still being accepted. To donate, visit [www.plungemd.com](http://www.plungemd.com), click on "Donate" and enter the name of the plunger to whom you want your donation credited. For a general donation to the Rockville City Police Department's team, consider donating to K-9 Boomer, who participated in his third plunge and has raised \$1,400 this year.

### Spring Leaf Collection Will Take Place April 7-18



Area 1: April 7-8, Area 2: April 9-10, Area 3: April 11 and 14, Area 4: April 15-16, Area 5: April 17-18

For more information on this, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection) or call 240-314-8568.

# Neighborhood Notes

## Meet Your Neighbor: Jessica Li

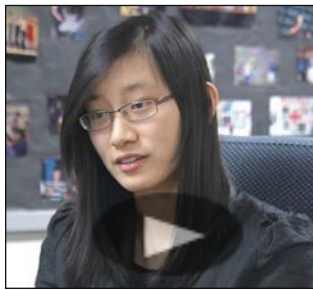
*Meet Your Neighbor is a regular feature in Rockville Reports and on Rockville 11 highlighting the unique individuals that make our community a special place. To suggest someone for a future episode and article, email*

[meetyourneighbor@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:meetyourneighbor@rockvillemd.gov).

Jessica Li, a senior at Richard Montgomery High School, is making a name for herself.

Li has been recognized nationally for her clean energy efforts, her writing and her academic successes. She is a devoted tree-hugger and the president of her school's environmental club.

At school she has delivered presentations on reasons and strategies for conserving energy and using alternative energy. But she hasn't stopped at that. Li has also coordinated a T-shirt design contest with themes of recycling and alternative energy and held a schoolwide "Jeopardy!"



Watch Rockville 11's interview with Jessica on the City's YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville).

game about clean energy. For two years, Li even took the initiative to lead other students to turn off lights, printers and computers in all classrooms and labs after school, saving about \$20,000 per month.

Her efforts go beyond the classroom walls. Li has spent more than 800 hours conducting a research project on leukemia, for which she earned semi-finalist recognition in the prestigious Siemens Westinghouse Competition.

She has served as secretary and vice presi-

dent of the Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association and Public Awareness Chair of the Maryland Youth Advisory Council, where she led lobbying efforts to increase student mentoring, reduce Styrofoam lunch trays and increase governmental subsidies to low-income students taking driver's education courses.

Jessica's "green thumb" has also led her to grow as a writer. She co-founded and serves as editor-in-chief of the MocoStudent, the first countywide, student-run online newspaper for Montgomery County teens.

"Rockville is the first city I lived in when coming to America," she says. "When I attended Beall Elementary School, the morning walks in the grove that encircles the school were a true delight. The rich canopies of green gave me a wonderful start to the day every morning. I want to preserve Rockville's greenery." ❖

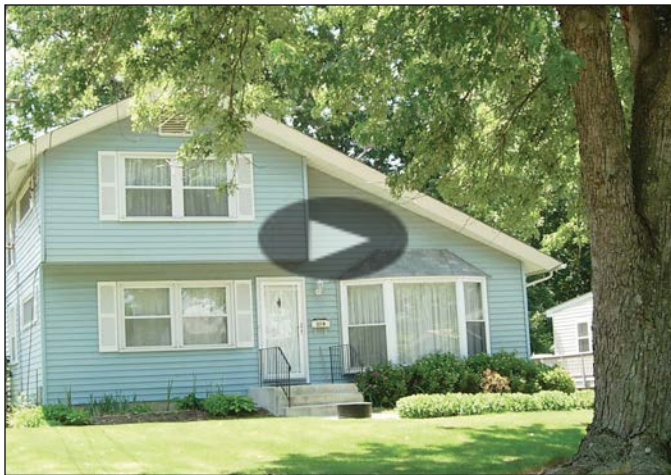
## Peerless Rockville's Modern Living Series Begins This Month

*Free Events Feature Mid-20th Century Rockville Neighborhoods*

The dynamic growth of Rockville from a rural county seat in the 1930s to a thriving modern city at the close of the 20th century shaped our City's unique identity. This spring, Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation invites residents to learn more about this dynamic period of the City's development as it continues its popular "Modern Living for a Modern City" series.

Through a series of illustrated presentations and guided walks, Peerless will offer residents a glance into the histories of the Rockcrest, Hungerford and College Gardens neighborhoods.

The series begins in March with a look at the early 1940s and the beginning of the Rockcrest development. Planned as a neighborhood of modest homes, Rockcrest helped bring the dream of homeownership to a new generation. "Modern Living for a Modern City" events include:



**This Hungerford neighborhood house was built in 1958.**

- **Rockcrest**, with Jessica Reynolds, international trade specialist and Rockville Historic District Commission member, 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 29, at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.
- **Hungerford**, with historian Teresa Lachin, 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 12, at the Elwood Smith Community Center, 601 Harrington Rd.
- **College Gardens**, with Nancy Pickard,

programs manager at Peerless Rockville, 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

"Modern Living for a Modern City" events are free and open to the public. Peerless Rockville is a nonprofit organization that works in partnership with the City of Rockville to preserve buildings, objects and information important to Rockville's heritage. To learn more, visit [www.peerlessrockville.org](http://www.peerlessrockville.org) ❖



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the City of Rockville's website. If you don't already have a QR code reader on your phone, there are plenty of free apps you can download. When you have an app installed, point your phone's camera at the code and the website will appear in your phone's web browser.



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Rockville Reports is the official publication of the Mayor and Council, published at

City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD

20850-2364. It is delivered to all residents of

Rockville. Phone 240-314-8105.

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